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Ronald Reagan

Yamani says oil surplus to continue

FRANKFURT, Jan. 24 (AP) — Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister, predicted an oil surplus in 1982 and doubted there would be sharp increases in oil prices barring major political shocks.

In a television interview broadcast Friday, Yamani said "I don't see the situation grimly at this point. Unless political events interrupt oil supplies, price will follow low demand."

He applauded the efforts by member nations of the International Energy Agency to curb oil imports and avoid turning to the spot markets, where prices rise sharply.

"When nations behave well on the spot markets, there won't be talk of \$50 a barrel," Yamani said, adding "I don't see any possibility of a panic (on the spot markets) in the present circumstances, even if the (Iran-Iraq) war continues for some time." Yamani said current Saudi Arabian production totaled 10 million barrels a day, with an additional 300,000 barrels originating in the neutral zone, whose production is shared between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

U.S. eyes interests in Gulf

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — U.S. President Reagan and his senior defense and foreign policy officials appear to be focussing their attention on safeguarding U.S. interests in the Gulf area.

Defense Department sources said Friday the Gulf was a major topic of discussion at Reagan's cabinet meeting. The president, Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger and Secretary of State Alexander Haig all have been devoting considerable thought to this problem, the sources said.

Weinberger was described as "carefully looking at our strategy in the Gulf." Although no specifics were available, the sources said Weinberger was "concerned about our whole presence out there and what the new administration might want to do" to strengthen the protection of U.S. interests.

He was said to be looking at, what the sources called, "a grand strategy" aimed at discouraging foreign governments from taking U.S. personnel as hostages or from encouraging or supporting terrorists in hostage seizures.

During his confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee earlier this month, Weinberger criticized as "clumsy and ill-advised" the way former President Jimmy Carter pledged use of U.S. military power to thwart any Soviet threat to seize control of the oil-producing states.

He did not quarrel with the basic idea behind the "Carter Doctrine." Instead, he said, "my only concern is the ability to carry it out with the force and strength that would be required."

The Carter administration's final defense budget for the 1981-82 fiscal year placed considerable stress on enhancing U.S. ability to send significant ground and air forces to the Gulf in a crisis.

The Reagan administration's early focus on the Gulf suggested that its expected revision in the Carter budget might accelerate U.S. measures to strengthen the U.S. military presence in the region.

Islamic summit begins today



HOLIEST PLACE: Islam's holiest place where the Muslim heads of state will meet Sunday for the opening session of the third Islamic summit conference. The leaders will return to Taif later in the day.

Leaders to meet in Mecca

By a Staff Writer

TAIF, Jan. 24 — The largest conference of Muslim heads of state opens in Mecca Sunday with 38 states and the Palestine Liberation Organization represented by their leaders.

The leaders, who arrived here on Friday and Saturday, were due to drive by motorcade to the holiest place in Islam for opening session. They will return to Taif later in the day for the meetings to discuss some of the most serious issues facing Muslims everywhere. They also will draw up a strategy of Islamic action for the salvation of the holy city of Jerusalem and occupied Islamic lands, including the West Bank and Afghanistan.

The third summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) coincides with the start of the 15th century of the Hijra, the Islamic calendar, and comes at a time of resurgence and a revival of the influence of Islam.

The speakers at the summit include United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, expected here later Saturday.

It will be the first time a U.N. secretary-general has attended or spoken at an OIC gathering since the Organization was founded in 1969 after Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, Islam's third holiest shrine, was deliberately set on fire.

In an interview published in newspaper *Al-Jazirah* Saturday, Dr. Waldheim said the OIC was "a most important grouping" in the United Nations.

He told the paper he hoped to discuss a number of issues with Islamic leaders at the summit, especially Jerusalem, Palestine, southern Lebanon and Afghanistan.

The ministers and OIC secretariat officials, who drew up the agenda for the summit conference at a preparatory meeting earlier this week, expressed confidence Saturday that it will produce concrete results on a wide range of problems facing the Islamic world.

Prominent on the summit agenda are economic issues. It could lead to a marked increase in multilateral economic cooperation within the Islamic world, with its estimated 800 million people.

Palestine and Jerusalem have been made the theme of the conference, which is expected to produce a resolution setting out a program for the liberation of Jerusalem and the occupied territories. The summit will also approve the "Mecca declaration" calling on member states to mobilize to defend their independence.

Beyond the problem of the Iran-Iraq war, the conference will also be faced with a second problem, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. During the preparatory ministerial meeting this produced one of the longest debates and brought to the surface the underlying sympathies of OIC members, with some states fighting for the draft resolution to be watered down to exclude a con-

demnation of the Soviet Union.

But when the summit ends Wednesday, the organizers hope that it will have demonstrated that the OIC has achieved a unity that will give it one of the most influential voices in international affairs.

Meanwhile, the delegation, which had gone to Tehran to persuade Iran to attend the summit, returned here Saturday. Turkish Foreign Minister Alifar Turkman told *Arab News* Saturday that although the five-man delegation had failed to convince the Iranian government to end its boycott of the OIC summit, "certain ideas have been explored

Vatican halts leader

By Mohammad Sheibani

TAIF, Jan. 24 — The Vatican has prevented the former Archbishop of Jerusalem Hilarion Capucci from joining the Palestinian Christian delegation to the Islamic summit, according to Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Speaking to *Arab News* Saturday, Arafat said other religious leaders joined the delegation. They included Archbishops Yusuf Hassoun of Antioch and Juan Khater and Elias Khoury.

Capucci, who had been in Israeli prisons for some 2 years, was preparing to join the delegation when the Vatican ban was made under Israeli pressure, Arafat, said. "We resent this extremely," he added.

Arafat said holding the conference in Mecca was clearly symbolic of Islamic solidarity and making Palestine and Jerusalem its theme was an indication of the importance attached to the lands by the leaders of the Islamic world.

He was pleased too by the unanimous adoption of the Palestinian working paper by the foreign ministers conference which preceded the summit.

and will be continued".

The delegation leader, Habib Chatti, secretary general of OIC, said of the talks: "Given a little time for reflection, I hope the result will be positive."

Turkman said the team which also included the foreign ministers Guinea and the head of the PLO's political department — spent 90 minutes with Iranian Prime Minister Rajai followed by lunch, and a further two hours with President Baghi-Sadr. The meetings following the talks, Turkman said: "We are neither in hope nor despair" of reaching an Iraq-Iran settlement. But he declined to indicate the substance of the ideas discussed in Iran, Turkman said he thought "that the visit was to underline the importance we attach to Iran's presence at the conference. His personal impression was that the Iranians appreciated the fact that we made this trip."

(Continued on back page)

India stops newsmen's accreditation

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24 (Guardian) — The Indian government is trying to prevent a BBC television team from making a film of the aftermath of the blinding by police of 25 prisoners in the state of Bihar. A five-man team from the program "Newswatch" led by the reporter, David Lomax, and producer, Mike Dunfield, found that their official accreditations were being withheld while they were asked for an undertaking not to go ahead with the film.

Senior officials said they were tired of "negative" reporting about India. The aftermath of the blinding is one of a number of stories the BBC team is planning to shoot. Without accreditation, it is impossible to ship any film openly out of the country.

The official Indian spokesman, D.M. Dixit, said Wednesday: "I told them that there had been enough coverage about the blinding

and there are many other things to cover in India." Dixit denied having said they would not be allowed to make the film although he "advised them" not to go ahead. They had, however, finally been given their accreditation.

"I have not stopped them," Dixit said. "There is no formal restraint on them." He would not say whether there would be informal restraints or if the team would be permitted to send such a film out of the country.

The chief minister of Bihar had agreed to be interviewed by David Lomax, but Dixit said it was not up to the state to decide how India's image was to be projected. This was a matter for the Central government. "We share the shame for the cruelty of the blinding," he said. "This is not censorship. Every government has the right to determine how the country will be projected abroad, and I refuse to be crossquestioned about this any

more."

Telephone lines were reported damaged and telephone communication was virtually impossible. Roads also were seriously damaged. A medical team left by car Saturday morning from Chengdu and was expected to reach the area to which there is no air service. Government and party officials also began to coordinate relief work.

The region is earthquake-prone. In 1972, about 2,000 persons were killed in an earthquake that registered 7.3 on the Richter Scale. Officials in Chengdu said most of the housing in the area, constructed of mud, collapsed.

Tremors were felt in Chengdu, but damage was confined to Daofu County, reports indicated. Sichuan is China's most populated province with about 100 million persons.

Meanwhile, Antara news agency reported from Jakarta Saturday that about 70 persons were killed and 215 are missing after an earthquake that rocked the rugged interior of Irian Jaya province of Indonesia last Tuesday. It said the quake toll may increase because of difficulties in evacuating some 1,600 villagers trapped in two villages in the Jaya Wijaya mountains.

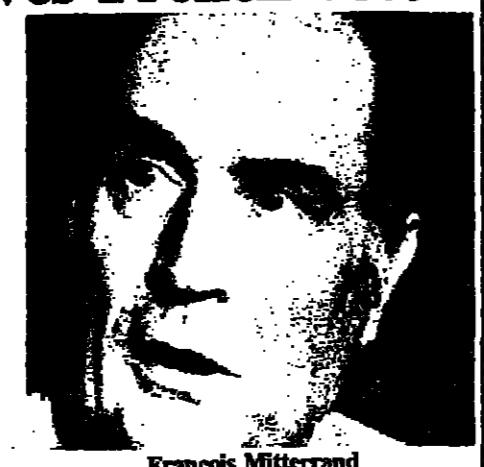
Khaled, Numeiri to dedicate station

TAIF, Jan. 24 — King Khaled and President Jaafar Numeiri of Sudan will dedicate the main microwave station here in the next few days, *Arab News* has learned. The station links the two countries across the Red Sea.

Mitterrand receives French vote

PARIS, Jan. 24 (R) — French Socialists by an overwhelming majority Saturday named their party leader Francois Mitterrand as a candidate for the presidential election starting April. At a special congress, they gave Mitterrand an 83.6 per cent endorsement for his third attempt to win the presidency.

Mitterrand, who is expected to start campaigning after returning from a visit to China mid-February, is steadily gaining on President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in opinion polls. The Socialists also published an election manifesto which denounced d'Estaing for abuse of presidential authority — a theme Mitterrand intends to make his main line of attack.



Francois Mitterrand

Sinbad'dhow drops anchor in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Jan. 24 (R) — A British writer, sailing a giant handmade Arab dhow, has arrived in Sri Lanka in the course of a journey from the Gulf of Oman to China to prove that the Arabs were among the first seafarers of the Orient.

Capt. Tim Severin, captain of the *Sohar*, a replica of the vessel sailed by the legendary hero Sinbad of "The Arabian Nights", put into Sri Lanka's south coast port, Galle, Thursday. He has covered half his planned 6,000-mile journey to Canton.

The 18-member crew includes Capt. Severin's nine-year-old daughter, eight Omanis, sailors and Britons and New Zealanders. The epic voyage is sponsored by the Sultan of Oman and the boat, built in Sur, was launched in late November.

"Everything is going on as we planned or rather the ancient Arabs recorded it," Capt. Severin told reporters.

The expedition aims to prove that the 10th-century Arab sailors were among the first seafarers to the Orient. Capt. Severin said. His boat's only navigational aids are the monsoon and the stars.

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Upon arrival in Kingdom

Officials express summit views

TAIF, Jan. 24 (SPA) — Muslim officials of various levels expressed optimism on the success of the third Islamic Summit conference due to open in Mecca Sunday. In different statements, the officials stressed that the summit will draw constructive resolutions and close ranks among Islamic countries.

Ruler of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa ibn Hamad Al-Thani, who arrived Saturday morning to lead his country's delegation to the summit, said the summit is an event cherished by all Muslim leaders during which views and opin-

ions are exchanged on the best ways of achieving the supreme Islamic aspirations.

Sheikh Khalifa said this conference held in the Holy Haram, the cradle of Islam, is held with extreme necessity for the interest of the Islamic community and its crucial causes more than any time in the past.

The major aim of the historic conference is to abide by the orders of God, to unite and close the pages of differences and adopt ways that enable the Islamic community to confront the challenges it faces, Sheikh Khalifa added. He called for drawing a comprehensive strategy that would herald a new and bright era for winning Islamic causes and rights and liberating the occupied land and holy places.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Issa ibn Salman Al-Khalifa the ruler of Bahrain, who arrived Saturday morning to attend the summit, described the summit conference as a historic development in the history of Islam. He praised the Kingdom's role, led by King Khaled, and Crown Prince Fahd, in preparing, and hosting the summit conference and the country's role in serving the causes of Islam.

Muslims in the world are looking forward to the results of the summit with hopes and wishes so that the Islamic community can overcome its difficulties and achieve a stage of joint effort, Sheikh Issa said. Recommendations and resolutions achieved so far indicate the advent of a bright future for the Islamic community, he added.

Tunisian premier Muhammad Mezali said the simple fact that the Mecca summit, held with the participation of most Islamic countries, is in itself a positive factor that shades optimism to the future. Further cooperation and closeness is expected from the summit, in the first place. The summit will consider two basic aspects, the political and social factors, to change its handling of surrounding development and mobilize all potentials to support Islamic rights.

Dr. Muhammad Abdo Yamani said Saturday the difference among Muslims tend to be on the surface rather than the core. He referred to attempts by superpowers in playing with the legal rights of Muslims and Arabs. Superpowers planted the seeds of disagreement among brothers to an extent against the enemies of Islam, the minister said.

Dr. Yamani said that the Mecca summit differs from any other previous meeting.

He stressed the need of the Islamic community in changing the ways of dealing with others to safeguard Islamic interest in the first place. The summit will consider two basic aspects, the political and social factors, to change its handling of surrounding development and mobilize all potentials to support Islamic rights.

the summit would help in ending the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Prince Saud-Al-Faisal, the chairman of the Islamic foreign ministers' conference, reiterated that one of the major objectives of the Mecca Summit is to dissolve differences among Muslims which could not be resolved with other means. He described the summit as a turning point in the history of the Islamic community.

Prince Saud expressed the hope that the conference will be able to achieve the objective for which it was called. The most important topic in the conference's agenda is the Mecca Declaration aiming at stressing Islamic solidarity and what it means to Muslims and relations among Islamic countries and their relations to other countries, the foreign minister said.

He added that the Palestine document endorsed by the Islamic foreign ministers' conference also is one of the major issues for the summit. The economic proposals approved by the foreign ministers and submitted to the summit include the Islamic cooperation project, Prince Saud said.

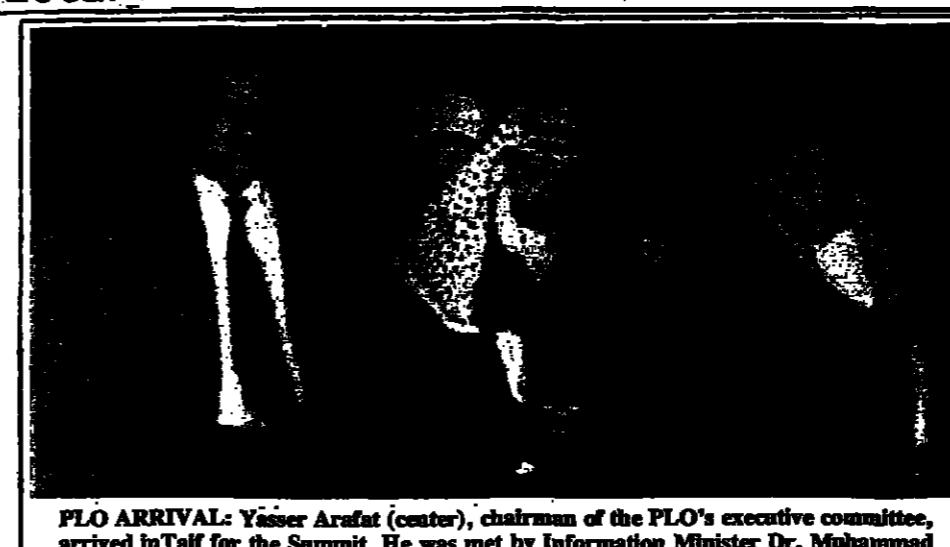
Mecca Governor Prince Majed also confirmed that the great challenges confronting the Islamic community demand joint Islamic action that will achieve its aspirations and protect it from the posing dangers.

A previous statistical report from Saudi Telephone indicated that citizens were mak-

ing approximately one million international calls per month. Close to 70 per cent of these calls were ISD calls, showing that citizens are taking full advantage of Saudi Telephone's modern switching equipment and computers, the company said.

Subscribers with ISD can now directly dial Upper Volta, Cameroon, Mauritania, Ivory Coast and Ethiopia, according to a phone company report. The addition of these countries to Saudi Telephone's ISD service brings to 90 the total of countries that can be called directly from the Kingdom.

The conference, running alongside the Mecom Exhibition, will be held in a new air-conditioned complex erected last year, and runs from Feb. 3 through the 5th.



PLO ARRIVAL: Yasser Arafat (center), chairman of the PLO's executive committee, arrived in Taif for the Summit. He was met by Information Minister Dr. Mohammed Yamani (right) and the PLO representative in the Kingdom Rafiq Natshe (left). The Islamic conference was named the Jerusalem and Palestine summit by the foreign ministers in their deliberations last week.

Five international phone lines added

RIYADH, Jan. 24 — Saudi Telephone announced another advance for the benefit of citizens making long-distance international subscriber dialing calls. ISD service has been opened to five more countries.

Subscribers with ISD can now directly dial Upper Volta, Cameroon, Mauritania, Ivory Coast and Ethiopia, according to a phone company report. The addition of these countries to Saudi Telephone's ISD service brings to 90 the total of countries that can be called directly from the Kingdom.

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The 10,000 circuit satellite will be launched in 1982, according to plans. Twenty-two Arab states will make use of it through a specially-built earth station in their capital cities.

Dr. Al-Mashat, who runs the Arabsat project from his Riyadh headquarters, will fly to Bahrain to explain the current status and prospects of the project to delegates attending the three-day conference program at the Exhibition Center Bahrain.

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Reagan adviser warns

Zionists vying for key positions

By Bob Lebling and Faizi Asmar
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 — A Reagan campaign adviser has warned that Zionists are engaged in a major effort to gain control of key second and third-level foreign policy positions in the new administration. The adviser, who declined to be identified, told *Arab News* that the moderate Arab states should temper their optimism about the Reagan administration and instead focus their attention on the Zionists' attempts to move into important sub-cabinet level slots in the State Department and other agencies.

If Israel's strong supporters win appoint-

Afghan defector says Russian casualties high

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24 (AP) — An estimated 150 Soviet soldiers are killed or wounded daily in Afghanistan, a defecting Afghan government official has told reporters. Some reports say as many as 5,000 Soviet troops have been killed in Afghanistan since Moscow intervened there 13 months ago, but Afghan government sources put the figure at 1,300 Russian deaths, said the man, who was identified as only a deputy secretary from the Afghan public health department.

Soviet casualties at first were flown out of Afghanistan back to their homeland, but the flights loaded with coffins have ceased in recent months. Reports circulating through Kabul say Russian soldiers killed by the anti-Marxist Afghan rebels now are buried at a secret location in the capital, the man said Friday.

The official arrived here three days ago. He was allowed to leave Afghanistan with his family after getting doctors in his department to certify that his wife needed medical treatment not available in Afghanistan. Soviet administrators also have taken over the Afghan government "at every level of administration," the man said.

Fighting throughout the countryside has forced thousands of Afghans to resettle in Kabul, and this has led to a construction boom in the capital, the official said. He estimated there are 200,000 houses now under construction in Kabul, many of them being built illegally without official approval. But Kabul "is not too safe," he added. "Not a single day passes without incidents of firings or explosions there," he said.

ments to these slots, there will be little chance for improvement in America's Middle East policy, the adviser warned. "Those Arabs who believe Reagan's friends in the business community will be able to influence him positively in terms of Middle East issues may be in for a disappointment," he said. The new president does not turn to these corporate executives for foreign policy advice, the adviser said.

Zionist advisers have told Reagan that these businessmen want better relations with the Arabs simply for the sake of boosting their corporate profits through expanded trade, he added.

Arab diplomats here have expressed optimism about the new administration, on the grounds that Reagan's election victory reflects a general shift in American opinion that over the long run will favor the Arabs rather than Israel. But informed sources pointed out that until Secretary of State Alexander Haig becomes settled in his job, National Security Adviser Richard Allen, a staunch pro-Israel supporter, will have the president's ear on Middle East matters.

Allen, a former Nixon administration official who fell out of favor, owes his return to prominence to American Zionists, the sources said.

When charges emerged last year that Allen was involved in influence-peddling on behalf of foreign governments during his service in the Nixon administration, Zionists rallied to his support and helped him retain favor with Reagan, according to these sources.

Reagan still lacks a sound knowledge of Middle East issues, and over the coming months will rely on advice from Allen until Haig begins to assert himself as the administration's foreign policy voice. Much will depend on the perspective Haig develops regarding the Arab world and Israel, sources noted.

Meanwhile, Washington's leading Jewish newspaper, *The Jewish Week*, reported recently that "as far as Israel is concerned, many pro-Israel activists here in Washington are not all that concerned that President Ronald Reagan has not named one Jew to his cabinet." The paper said that "indeed, there is no shortage of Jews slated to serve at the crucial sub-cabinet level, especially at the State Department where so many policy-making decisions affecting Israel are made."

"From Israel's point of view, having people in these slots has historically proven to be more decisive than having a Jewish attorney general or transportation secretary in the cabinet who stayed out of Middle East diplomacy," a Foreign Office spokesman said Carrington.

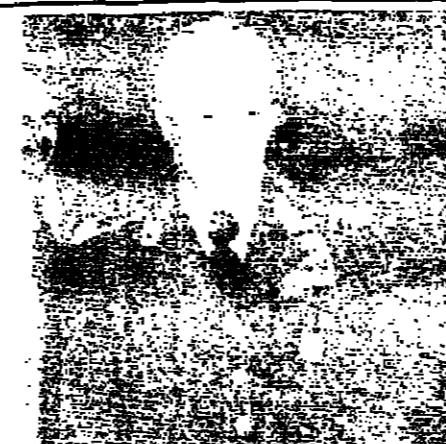
Turkey's retired generals replace top executives

ANKARA, Jan. 24 (AP) — Turkey's military rulers began a major push this week to insert retired generals into leadership posts within the bureaucracy and state economic enterprises. The generals began with the top men in the state communications organs and culminated Friday when the board of directors of the semi-official Anatolia news agency accepted the resignation of Attila Onuk, the general director. He reportedly was asked to resign earlier in the week along with the heads of the state radio and television and the department of press and information. He is said to have refused.

Onuk's replacement is Brig. Gen. Cevdet Tanyeli. The new man at Turkish radio and television is retired Gen. Mwcit Akman who replaces Dogan Kasaroglu. The new director at the important department of press and information is retired Gen. Necati Ozkaner, replacing Cemil Unuturk. The shakeup within the bureaucracy has been forecast last

week in a speech by coup leader Gen. Kenan Evren who warned government workers to give up old political loyalties.

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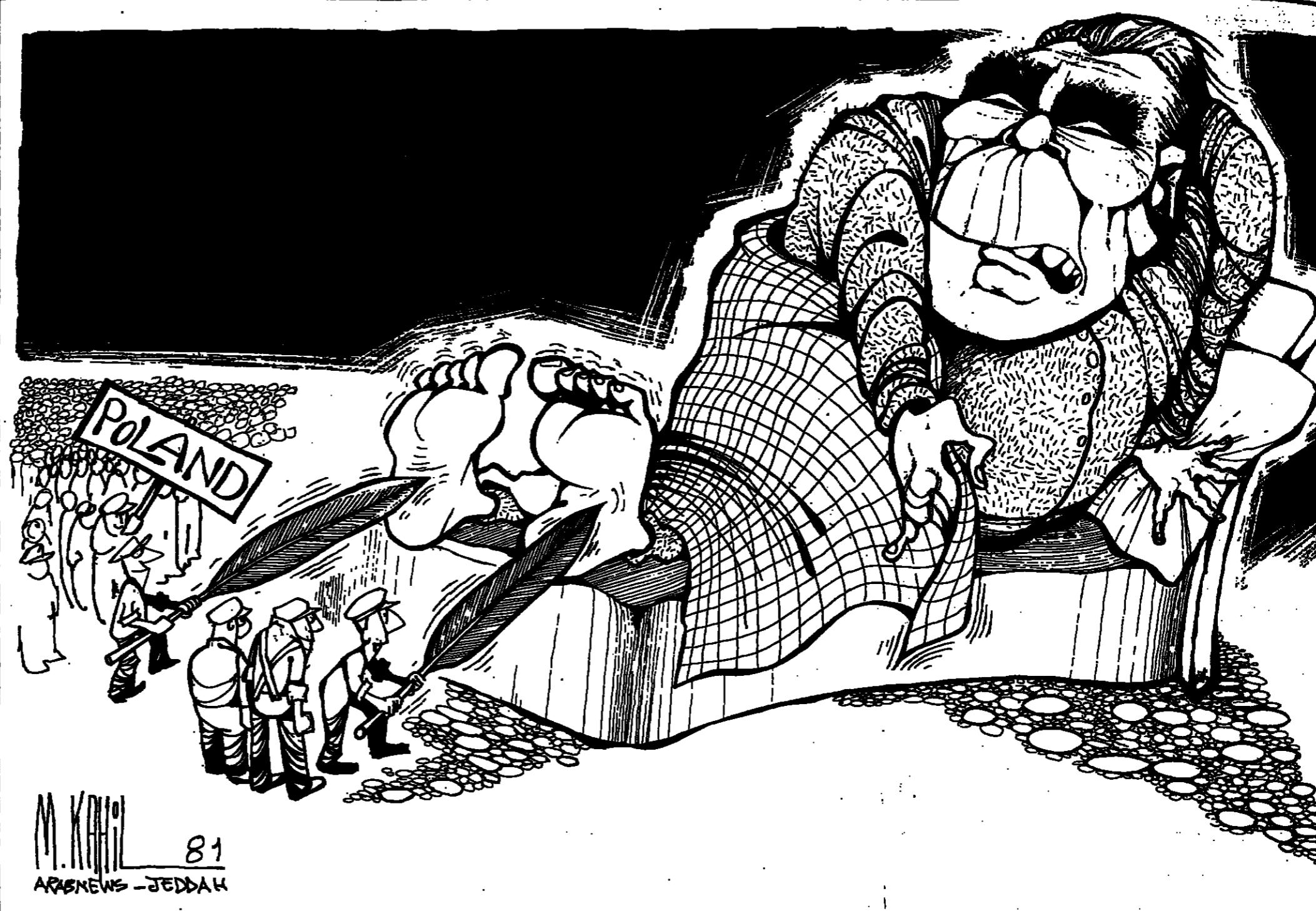
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Do Russians understand real nature of Polish crisis?

By Neal Ascherson

WARSAW —

The Russians have begun to answer back to the world about Poland, denying military intervention was ever intended. This tone is sometimes injured and counter-accusing, sometimes scornful and almost jocular. Western sources report that tanks and troops remain on the starting positions around Poland's frontiers, ready to move. But the intensity of the Soviet propaganda barrage, a defensive one, suggests no intervention is imminent.

Boris Ponomarev, a secretary of the Central Committee, told the French recently that the Soviet Union would not dream of invading Poland. Valentin Falin, once Soviet ambassador in Bonn, gave a startling interview to the West German magazine *Der Spiegel*, in which he said the Polish Communists were able and willing to deal with their own problems. He suggested that independent, non-Communist trade unions were not unthinkable in a Socialist society, and even — no doubt indicating a pinch of salt — that a non-Socialist country could be a member of the Warsaw pact. "Naturally, why not? We aren't a closed club like NATO."

The Poles, less familiar with Falin's taste in irony than the Germans, became over-excited about this interview. They suggested that, through Falin, the Russians might be confessing the Polish problem was beyond them, that the Poles must be allowed to choose their own internal policies and — as so many of them hope — become "Finlandized."

But there was much more weight behind a recent article in *Pravda*, signed by "A. Petrov", and it was much less encouraging. It was mainly a rebuke to the West for interfering in Poland's internal affairs and supporting "anti-Socialist" groups. But it also accused NATO of trying to distort the meaning of the sovereignty of the Polish state by denying it the "possibility of defending itself against internal and external enemies." In other words, the Polish leadership has the right to invite Soviet assistance if it wishes.

Afghanistan continues to bleed and past resolutions of the Islamic foreign ministers have not gone far enough to make the Soviet Union pay dearly for its invasion and occupation. The summit will have to go farther in supporting the Afghan people, by direct military and financial support of the fighters and to persuade the over one million refugees in Pakistan to go back home and fight, after giving them the necessary means to do so. Somalia has a similar catastrophe, with a million refugees fleeing Ethiopia during the war in the Ogaden further worsening the plight of the whole Somali people.

Of immediate concern to the Muslims is the raging Iraqi-Iranian war, and it is encouraging to learn that the Iranian government is considering sending a delegation to the summit after boycotting the foreign ministers conference. This, if true will present a chance for the other leaders to bring the two antagonists together for the first time since the war broke out. If the summit can bring about a ceasefire, it will have made a tremendous, concrete achievement to the whole Muslim nation. Besides, it will have shown the rest of the world the power of Islamic unity and the capacity to settle inter-Islamic disputes peacefully. The Organization of the Islamic Conference tried last year to persuade the two countries to stop fighting and start talking but found little response at the beginning of the war. Perhaps, now that the war has gone on for five months without either side scoring a decisive victory, the two governments may be more amenable to a concerted Islamic effort to halt the carnage.

This is as good a chance as any to draw up a strategy for settling inter-Islamic disputes through the organization which should be so strengthened as to be competent enough to stop a war and arbitrate instead.

The organization's own Islamic Solidarity Fund is too small to answer the requests for emergency aid. The richer Islamic states are already giving considerable aid on a bilateral basis but enriching the fund will enable the member states to seek and receive aid fairly easily and quickly.

This *ultima ratio* was well hidden last month at Gdansk. Under the monument to the dead of the 1970 riots, the three parts of the new Polish establishment — party, church and Solidarity — embraced. When the editor Mietek Rakowski mentioned that night in a television commentary that there was also looting in 1970, telephones began to ring. "Shameless! Tacless!"

Everyone wants the victims to be stainless-steel heroes, who "gave their lives for the unity of the nation." Nobody repeats this version more fervently than the party.

The unveiling of the monument was made into a ceremony of forgiveness and cooperation, a celebration of the common patriotism of Poles of all beliefs, a commitment to "renewal" guided by the party and supported by Solidarity's workers and the church's faithful.

Perhaps the workers who died would be astonished to hear the motives assigned to them. But the church and Solidarity, sobered by the menace of intervention and the exhaustion of a nation which spends much of its day queuing in sleet and slush, are building a precarious unity with the party.

It has gone so far that, in the last few days, both Lech Wałęsa and the episcopate could recommend the party's program for "renewal" to their followers as a summons which every patriot should accept. But how much further can this cooperation go? On all three sides, the limits are beginning to appear. The church has apparently gone too far already. The radical Catholics, bishops and laymen alike, are furious with the episcopate's spokesman for telling foreign journalists that opposition attacks on the Soviet Union were "irresponsible."

Solidarity's millions of members have cooled down but remain, in some areas, too hot to handle. One of these areas is censorship and another is political arrest. The workers' support — with some skepticism — the party and state in the "renewal."

but attempts to suppress their new publications or seize prominent opposition intellectuals like Adam Michnik or Jacek Kuron would at the moment mean a new and disastrous strike wave.

This is also the party's limit. The assurances the Polish leaders had to give at the Warsaw Pact summit in Moscow last month are beginning to be visible. Probably there was no time limit set to bring Poland to order. But a re-establishment of tighter control on the press and eradication of "anti-Socialists" from Solidarity seem to have been demanded.

Restrictions on the media are noticeable but not yet painful: It may be a different story when the fearless unofficial journals of the new unions — *Independence* in Warsaw, *Unity* in Szczecin, *Solidarity* in Gdańsk, and so on — go on the public news stands as the authorities promised. The authorities are now reaching out nervously after old oppositionist intellectuals firmly embedded in Solidarity, like Kuron and Michnik. To arrest members of a far-right group like the Confederation of Independent Poland was safe enough, and new arrests there are reported. But Solidarity, and Walesa per-

sonally, will fight for those two and their associates.

One must understand the party's miserable choice. Not to deal with Kuron will suggest to Moscow that the Polish leaders have lost power. To arrest or charge him, on the other hand, will fit another general strike.

"Why can't Kuron do his patriotic duty by emigrating now, and attacking us even more violently from the West?" a Central Committee member sighed. But, with luck, this can all be postponed. The Russians, after apparently preparing to move a few divisions into Poland last month as a "home-military relocation," changed their minds and seem in no hurry to act. Some Polish ministries are being bothered with uninvited Soviet visitors with advice on this and that, followed by inquisitive phone calls. That, too, can be endured.

The real question is whether the Soviet leadership will force the Polish Communists into taking the sort of action which, in this climate, will destroy the fragile, limited trust beginning to revive between the party and the nation. In other words, do the Russians understand the real nature of the Polish crisis? Last month there were faint signs they do.

Letter to the editor

Dear Sir,

The third Islamic summit conference at Taif is a momentous occasion which underlines the imperative need for unity in the Muslim world. At a time when sanity has taken a back seat, when our Muslim brethren are struggling for a homeland in Palestine and the brave Afghan warriors are fighting with their backs to the wall, the presence of a powerful Muslim bloc is of paramount importance. Only then can our voice be heard.

Toward this end it is necessary that Iran and Iraq should bury their hatchet and work for cementing Islamic unity. Nevertheless, the ball has been set in motion. Insha'Allah, the cherished goal will soon be realized.

Muhammad Mushtaq
C/o P.O. Box 556
JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA

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Saudi Arabian Press Review

turning point in the Islamic world's relations with other countries of the world. This turning point is sure to create changes in the strategies of those forces of the world which invariably maintain unjust relations with the countries of the Islamic world, the paper added.

Al Nida'a held the view that the convening of the Islamic summit in the proximity of the Holy Kaaba has a significance beyond any expression. The

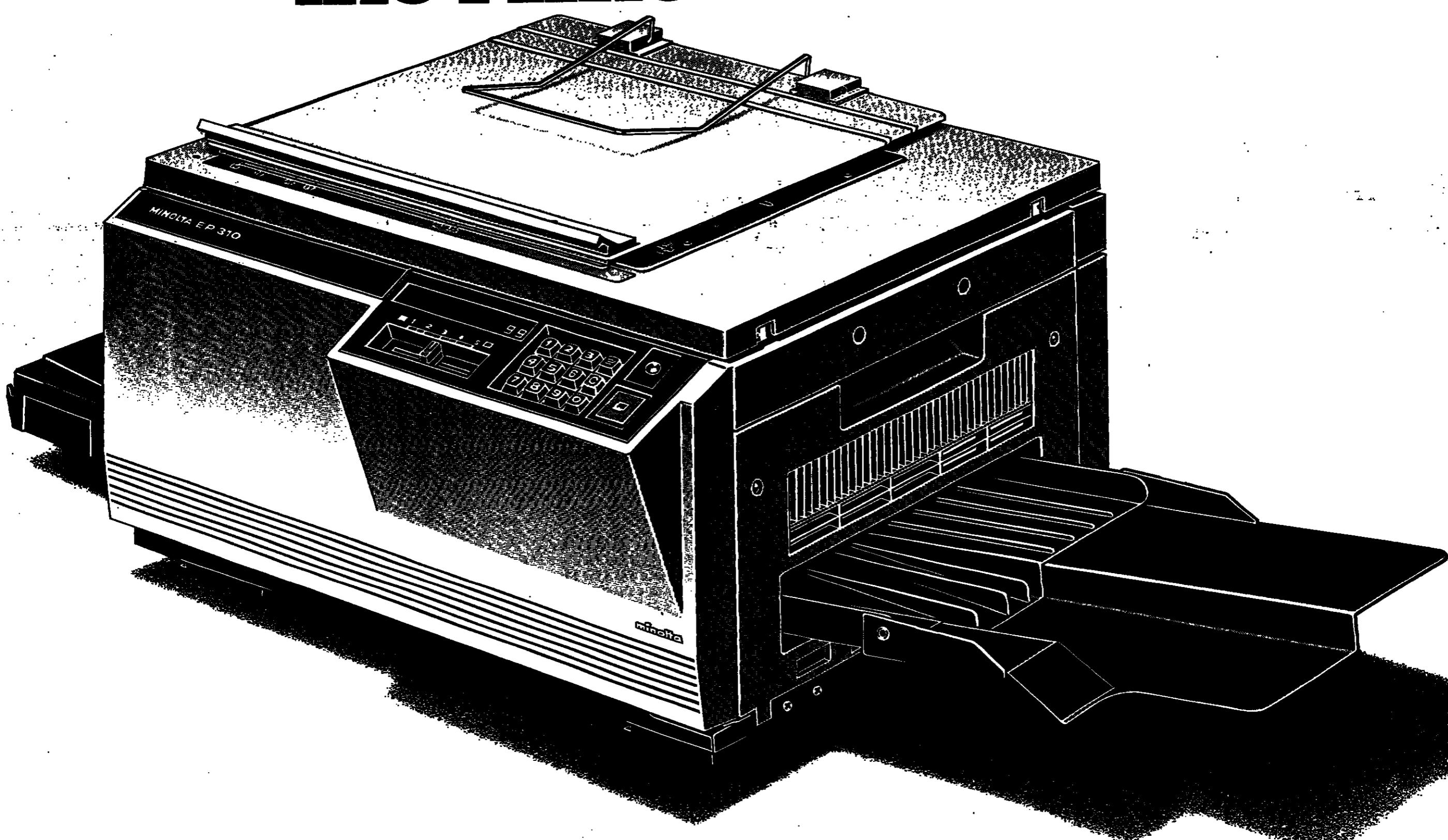
Islamic leaders' meeting in the Holy City would mean taking a pledge of loyalty and sincerity in their faith. The paper felt confident the Muslim leaders would notice the enormous efforts exerted in the preparation of the conference agenda. This only reiterates the Islamic world's keenness to emancipate itself from rifts and dissensions and to work for total cooperation in their relations with other countries of the world, the paper said.



Sadat to Hosni Mubarak: "This is time for me to go to Mecca for Umrah (minor pilgrimage)!!" Al Riyad

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Political normalization**Marcos abolishes media control**

By Joe Pavia

Arab News Correspondent

MANILA, Jan. 24 — President Ferdinand Marcos has abolished both the print and broadcast media councils, the only remaining restriction on Philippine media. The councils, created in 1974 as self-regulatory bodies, were abolished by virtue of a presidential decree dated Jan. 15, 1981, two days before the formal lifting of martial law. The abolition decree was released today by Malacanang (presidential palace).

The order repealed a decree dated Nov. 9, 1974, creating separate regulatory councils for the print and broadcast media industries. Since then, the two councils were in operation and they were the only bodies that could issue permits for the publication of a newspaper or the operation of a radio-television station. Prior to their abolition, the Philippine Council for Print Media was headed by *Buletin Today* publisher Gen. Hans Menzi, while newspaper columnist Teodoro Valencia was the chairman of the Broadcast Council.

A Malacanang announcement said this step is in line with the president's proclamation terminating martial law as the country moves toward full political normalization. It also paves the way for the Philippine media to

20 blind held in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Jan. 24 (R) — Police Saturday arrested 20 blind men and women when they tried to block trains at New Delhi station to press their demands for jobs. A spokesman for the National Federation of the Blind said one of the protesters was injured in a scuffle with police. The federation has organized a protest movement against what it describes as the government's failure to provide jobs promised to the blind. Nineteen blind men and one woman were jailed for a week after trying to break through a police cordon at New Delhi station Friday.

establish their own organization to police their ranks, the announcement added.

Before the announcement of the abolition of the two councils, several members of the Batasang Pambansa, the country's legislative body, filed a bill seeking the abolition of the two councils. Among the authors of the bill were assemblymen Francisco Tatad, former minister of public information Mariano Logarta, Hilario Davide and Filemon Fernandez, all members of the opposition. In filing the bill, the opposition legislators said the lifting of martial law would be a farce if media continues to be licensed. With the abolition decree, the bill now becomes moot and academic.

National Press Club President Olaf Giron commended the president for finally lifting the last remaining vestiges of restrictions on Philippine media as the nation moves toward full normalization. He said with this act, "we in the profession of journalism can now look forward to an era of truly free and, at the same time, responsible media."

"We view the proclamation terminating the state of martial law as a positive step. The abolition of the print and broadcast media councils is in consonance with the collective desire of the NPC expressed through a resolution adopted by members of the club's board urging the repeal of the decree establishing such councils," Giron said in a formal statement. He added: "We believe that the self-regulation and self-discipline necessary for the realization of a responsible and truthful press can be better realized through the professional organizations of the journalists themselves, both print and broadcast, such as the NPC, the federation of provincial press clubs and the Kapisanan NG MGA broadcasters sa Pilipinas which have adopted their own codes of ethics."

Valencia also said in his column that he had advocated the abolition of the media councils

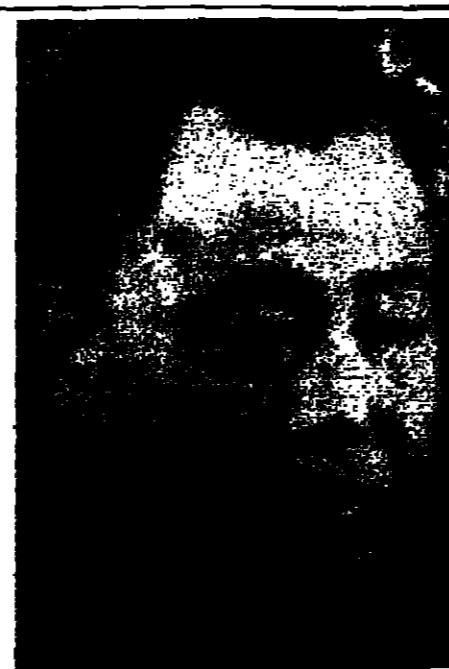
as early as two years ago. According to him, when President Marcos created the media councils, it was his idea to make the media self-government. "The broadcasters promptly implemented the spirit of this proclamation by making the Kapisanan NG MGA broadcaster Sa Pilipinas (KBP) truly self-governing," Valencia said in his column, adding that the KBP has expressed the sentiment that the media councils are no longer important as far as they are concerned.

Despite the abolition of the councils, media published companies will still have to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) like any other business concern. On the other hand, broadcasting corporations will have to apply for frequency assignment with the National Telecommunications Commission. Medias must also comply with the constitutional requirement that they be wholly-owned and managed by Filipino citizens.

movements, passed an 18-point resolution in which it called on the United Nations to impose mandatory sanctions on South Africa.

Delegates sources said the OAU's allocation to SWAPO had been doubled in the 1981-82 budget to \$700,000 and, as last April's Zimbabwe independence had freed more funds allocation to the banned South African nationalist movements, the Pan-African Congress (PUC) and African National Congress (ANC) would also be doubled. However, a report by executive secretary Hashim Mbisa said the situation over arrears of contributions by OAU members to the Liberation Committee was "alarming" — at the start of this year they stood at \$14,880,000 he told the conference.

The sources said a plan of action on Namibia, which was promulgated in addition to the resolution, called for increasing military assistance to SWAPO "to enhance its operational capability." According to the plan, there should be direct military assistance from OAU member states. It also calls for a request to be sent to the secretary general of the Arab League to convene an Afro-Arab cooperation meeting to strengthen an oil embargo on South Africa.



Zhao Ziyang

Chinese premier plans peace-making mission

PEKING, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang starts his first trip abroad next Monday since taking office last September with visits to Burma and Thailand. His arrival in the Burmese capital of Rangoon will follow closely on the return home of Burmese Foreign Minister Lay Maung from a visit to Vietnam and Thailand in a flurry of Indochinese diplomatic activity. No details have yet been released on Zhao's talks with Burmese and Thai officials.

Diplomatic sources said that on his trip to Rangoon Zhao might carry a message from a Burmese Communist leader to President Ne Win as part of a bridge-building process reflecting China's new attitude toward insurgent groups in southeast Asia. The new Chinese line, the sources said, encouraged Communist insurgents to stop fighting in return for governments in the region legalizing communism and admitting the parties into the political process.

In Bangkok Zhao's discussions with Thai leaders are expected to center on the Kampuchean problem including the question of a change of leadership for the pro-Chinese Kampuchean government and the prospect for an international conference on the country's future.

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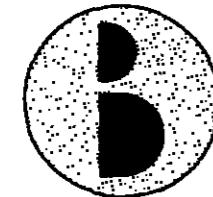
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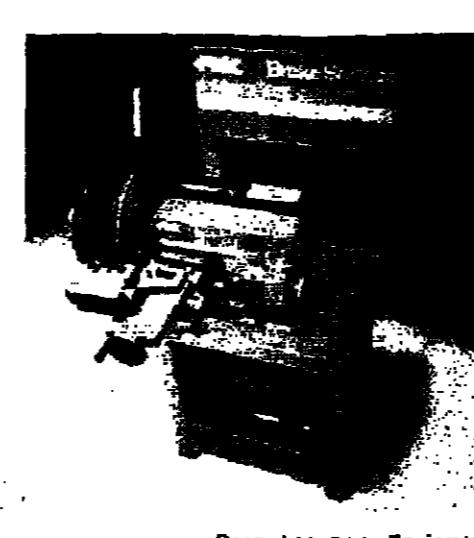
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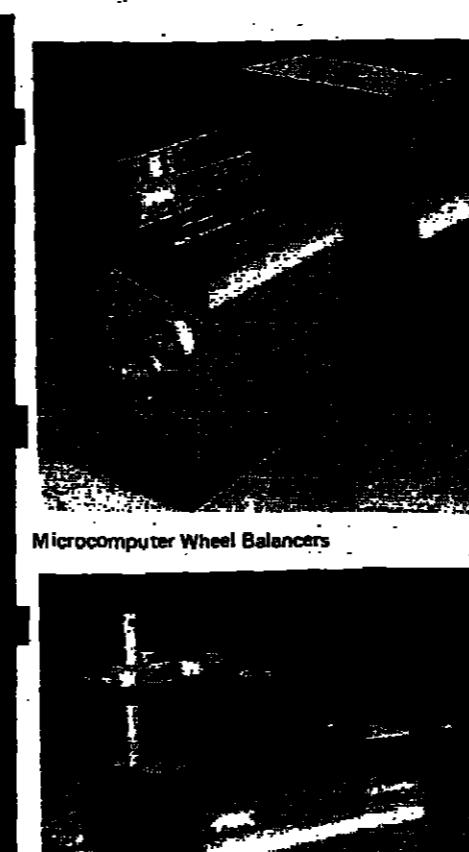
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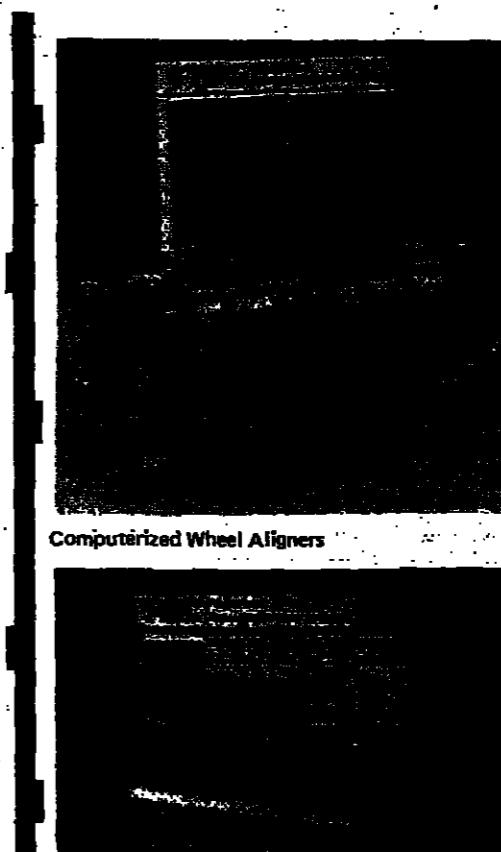
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plan Mexico

Leftists take over Salvador embassy

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 24 (AP) — About 5 leftists took over the El Salvador embassy here Friday morning, hung red banners from the two-story building then left after about an hour.

The banners identified the occupiers as members of the Revolutionary Workers' Party, a small far-left Mexican party. An anonymous telephone call to the AP said members of the Mexican Communist Party and the Socialist Workers' Party also were involved.

At a sidewalk press conference after they left the building a spokesman said the leftists demanded that Mexico stop selling oil to El Salvador and break relations with the central American country and that the United States not intervene in El Salvador. He said nothing in the Embassy was distributed.

N-reactor technology export

France, U.S. sign pact

effect until the U.S. and French governments give certain authorizations Westinghouse and Framatome, the department said.

The agreement, signed Thursday, was drawn up by the Carter administration in connection with a pending agreement between Westinghouse Electric Corporation and the French firm Framatome. Signed by Acting Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Pickering and French Ambassador Francois Laboulaye, the new accord will not take

Bokassa officials executed

BANGUI, Jan. 24 (AFP) — Six persons sentenced to death last February for crimes committed under the former regime of self-styled Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa, were executed here Saturday morning after their appeal for clemency was turned down.

Former Gen. Josephat Mayokomolat was executed for the January, 1979 murder of 10 children in one of the prison massacres.

South African troops still hold Angolan town

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 24 (AP) — South African soldiers that invaded Angola in Jan. 12 still hold a town there, Angolan Ambassador Elasio Figueiredo said in a letter made public here Friday.

The letter said, "racist South African

troops are still in occupation of Cuamoto, in the People's Republic of Angola." Figueiredo delivered the letter to U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim Thursday, asking him to circulate it as a document of the Security Council.

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UNUSUAL PARKING LOT: This must surely be the most unusual parking lot in the world. In the city of Hamden, USA, 20 cars have been enveloped by the lot's paving surface and covered in asphalt. The ghostly-looking vehicles are a permanent memorial created by an artist to bring thought-provoking ideas about American automobile mythology.

U.S. specialists' panel urges realistic role against Moscow

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP) — A panel of former U.S. officials and other foreign affairs specialists has called on the Reagan administration to forge a "realistic and pragmatic strategy" for dealing with the challenges posed by burgeoning Soviet power around the globe.

In assessing the outlook for Soviet-American relations, the bipartisan group declared Friday that "there should be no illusions about the possibilities for permanent cooperation or for cost-free victories at the other's expense."

The panel, sponsored by the United Nations Association, issued a report offering 70 recommendations for consideration by the new administration on political, military, arms control, economic, human rights and diplomatic aspects of U.S. policy toward the Soviet Union.

The group's chairman, former U.N. Ambassador William W. Scranton, and several others from the 29-member panel traveled to Moscow late last year for talks with Kremlin foreign policy adviser George Arbatov, head of the institute of the U.S. and Canada, and other senior Soviet officials.

In their report, the panel said the U.S. and the Soviet Union should soon open talks seeking a basis on which the "essential elements" of the unratified SALT II (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty) could be preserved.

"Rather than starting from scratch,

renewed discussions should identify those elements of the SALT II package that appear to serve the national security interests of both sides and those that appear to help stabilize the strategic balance," it said.

Eventually, the report added, the two countries should aim at more sizeable quantitative cuts in nuclear arsenals and elimination of older, deteriorating weapons systems such as the U.S. Titan missiles, which have been plagued by several launch site accidents.

On overall U.S.-Soviet relations, the panel asserted that the two superpowers "cannot hope to be partners and cannot afford to be enemies." For this country, it said, "the most effective answer to the Soviet challenge is a pragmatic blend of policies that actively forward U.S. interests while narrowing the range of opportunities open to Soviet exploitation."

"This will require not only strengthening western military preparedness which deserves priority attention — but reinvigorating the political and economic instruments of foreign policy as well," the report said.

The panel said "the current restrictions on grain sales to the Soviet Union should be continued in the light of their great political and symbolic impact and their impact on Soviet food supplies." The controversial embargo was among sanctions imposed after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

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Lima, Quito exchange protests over incident

LIMA, Peru, Jan. 24 (AP) — The governments of Ecuador and Peru have exchanged protests over a border incident involving a Peruvian army helicopter.

The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry said Friday in a formal protest that the helicopter violated Ecuadorian airspace in "an act of premeditated aggression" and fired a machine gun at a border station and seriously injured an Ecuadorean army pilot.

The Peruvian Foreign Ministry denied the charge in a communiqué and said an unarmed Peruvian army helicopter was making a routine and peaceful supply run to its border posts when it was fired upon and struck by Ecuadorean guns.

The Ecuadorean note was delivered to Peruvian Ambassador Jose Carlos Marinelli

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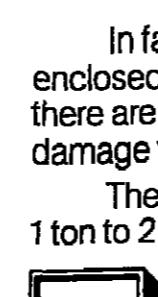
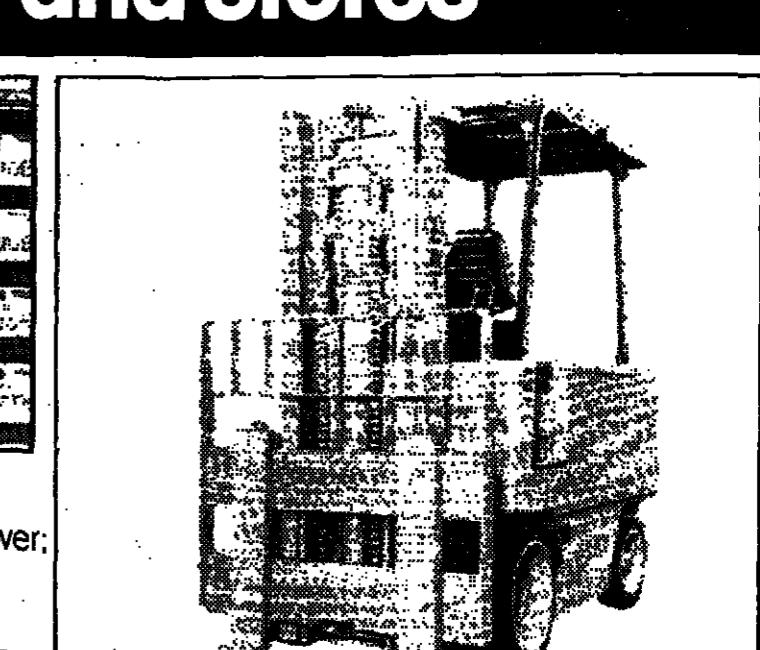
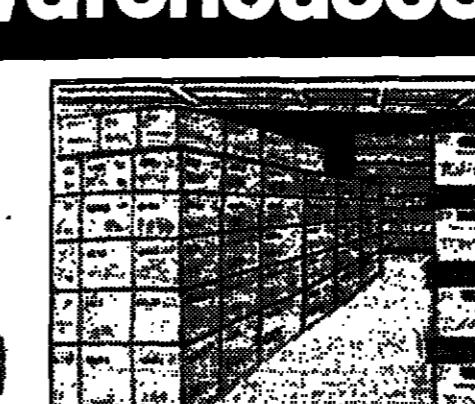
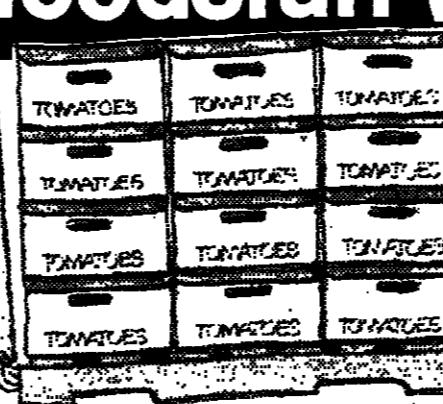
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*On all major fronts***Soviet economy suffers setback**

MOSCOW, Jan. 24 (R) — The Soviet Union has announced generally poor economic figures for 1980, ending what will be seen by the Kremlin as a disappointing performance overall in the just-concluded five-year period.

The latest figures released by the Central Statistical Board here Friday show that almost all major branches of the economy fell short of planned targets last year, including the all-important grain harvest which totalled 189.2 million tons.

The grain crop, a key factor in meat supplies because of its use as cattle fodder, was slightly better than that forecast by Western analysts, but was still 45 million tons below target.

In the energy field, the main bright spot remained gas production which met its target of 435 billion cubic meters. But oil output fell

three million tons short of plan, totalling 603 million tons. In the troubled coal industry, hit by a decline in old coal fields, production totalled 716 million tons — well short of its 745 million ton target.

The figures, published in the government newspaper *Izvestia*, showed that industrial production over the 1976-80 period grew by 24.3 per cent, short of the hoped-for growth of 36 per cent compared with the targeted growth rate of 6 per cent.

Igor Pogosov, deputy head of the Soviet Central Statistical Board, speaking at a press conference Friday attributed the poor agricultural performance exclusively to "climatic conditions". The wet weather had hit all branches of agriculture, he added.

The exception was cotton, grown in the Soviet Union's southern republics, which last year registered a record yield of 9.96

million tons. The figures showed that sugar beet and potato production were both well down on their targets.

But Pogosov said that given the poor weather conditions Soviet agriculture had performed reasonably well last year. He said a growth of 400,000 in the Soviet cattle herd had shown that the partial embargo of feed grain imposed by the United States on the Soviet Union after the 1979 Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan had failed.

Meat production for the year was down on target by 600,000 tons to 15.1 million tons. Western agricultural experts said the 1980 harvest result together with recent Soviet purchases of grains and animal feed on the world market meant large-scale distress slaughter of livestock this winter could be avoided.

Pogosov said coal production had been poor because conditions had been encountered "that we had not anticipated" though he did not elaborate on this.

He refused to be drawn into interpreting the oil production figure as supporting predictions by the United States Intelligence Agency (CIA) that Soviet oil output will peak and decline during this decade.

U.S. to lift price curbs on gasoline

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (WP) — The Reagan administration will soon remove price controls on gasoline and crude oil, and will impose a broad freeze on new federal regulations wherever it can, President Reagan's budget chief David A. Stockman predicted Wednesday. "We're going to freeze everything we legally and technically can," said Stockman, speaking of the new administration's campaign against federal regulation of the economy.

Stockman, awaiting Senate confirmation as director of the Office of Management and Budget, said on decision has been made yet on decontrol of oil and gasoline, but he noted that President Reagan and top members of the new administration made clear commitments to decontrol during the campaign. He told an audience at the National Press Club that they should "assume those commitments will be implemented shortly."

Immediate decontrol could add 7 cents a gallon to gasoline pump prices, raising overall consumer prices by about half a percentage point this year, according to some estimates, but Reagan and his advisers believe the federal energy controls have discouraged exploration and disrupted the distribution of gasoline during shortages and are determined to do away with them as soon as possible.

Ecuador sells oil below OPEC price

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP) — Ecuador, a South American member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, was reported to have sold a substantial amount of crude oil at nearly \$3 a barrel below its official export price.

Halsey Peckworth, editorial director of the newspaper *Platt's Oilgram Price Report*, said Friday Ecuador agreed with an unidentified buyer on \$37.30 a barrel price for a two-year, 15,000 barrels-a-day contract.

The report reflected slow world oil demand. It apparently was the first concrete indication of willingness by an OPEC member to sell oil beneath official prices since the 13-nation cartel agreed last month to raise prices by 10 per cent to an average of about \$35 a barrel.

Ecuador is one of OPEC's smallest members. Although its nominal official oil price was raised to about \$40 a barrel from \$39.11 recently, Ecuador sells most of its 230,000 barrels-a-day oil production by auction.

Peckworth said the reported price drop seemed to be due to Ecuador's inability to store large amounts of unsold crude. He said the average price of stored large amounts of unsold crude. He said the average price of individual cargoes of OPEC oil on spot markets fell 43 cents to \$38.49 this week, leaving the spot oil price well under the cartel's \$41 a barrel ceiling.

Consumer prices rise by 12 per cent in U.S.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (R) — U.S. consumer prices in December registered their largest one-month increase since March and pushed the 1980 inflation rate to 12.4 per cent, the government has reported.

December's 1.1 per cent rise, brought on by surging food, fuel and housing costs, produced a second successive year of double-digit inflation for the first time since 1919, the Labor department said Friday. The 1979 inflation rate was 13.3 per cent.

It said the consumer price index, which is designed to reflect the cost of living for a typical U.S. city dweller with a wife and two children, stood at 258.4 by the end of December.

This means the goods and services that cost \$100 in 1967, now cost \$258.40.

December's jump in prices followed three consecutive months of one per cent increases.

Big gas deposit found in Gulf of Thailand

Arab News Correspondent

BANGKOK, Jan. 24 — The Texas Pacific Company (Thailand) announced it has discovered a significant deposit of natural gas and condensate in a new exploratory well in the Gulf of Thailand. Located in an offshore petroleum concession area in the south, the well is believed to contain about two trillion cubic feet of natural gas and is capable of carrying a daily production of 14 million cubic feet plus a slight volume of condensate.

The company's officials announced that no follow-up drilling has been planned until the long-awaited natural gas sales contract with the Thai government is signed. This is the firm's 11th successful well in the Gulf of Thailand.

ROBERT BRICKELL, president and executive officer, Texas Pacific Oil Company, Dallas, said Thursday, it is prepared to move into the platform development stage as soon as a satisfactory gas sales agreement with the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PAT) is executed.

and are the largest one-month gain since last March when prices rose by 1.4 per cent.

Rising food, energy and housing costs accounted for 90 per cent of the overall increase, the labor department said.

Lawrence Chimerine, chief economist at the consulting firm of Chase Economics in Philadelphia, said Americans could expect more of the same in the month ahead.

"We're going to see continued pressure (in food, oil and mortgage interest rates) in the months ahead," he said.

In an accompanying report, the labor department said the average take-home pay of a married urban worker with two children declined 0.6 per cent in December.

For all of 1980, the purchasing power of the typical American pay check declined 4.8 per cent as inflation and higher taxes took their toll.

BRIEFS

AMSTERDAM, (AFP) — The Amro Bank of Amsterdam plans to open a subsidiary in Taipei and has requested Taiwanese government authorization for establishing an office in that city, a bank spokesman has said. Amro is the second-largest bank in the Netherlands.

LONDON, (AFP) — A new color-matching service is now available to wool dyers from the International Wool Secretariat (IWS), it was announced. It has already attracted world-wide interest, the IWS said. The service, based on a new color-matching computer will match any shade of pure new wool.

COPENHAGEN, (AFP) — Denmark has formally protested to West Germany about its declared intention of sending 11 trawlers to an area east of Greenland to fish 4,000 tons of cod. The Danish authorities objected to West Germany "switching" an unused quota from the west of Greenland to the eastern zone.

JAKARTA, (AFP) — Indonesian Nur-tanio and Spain's Caso, who plan to build a new aircraft in this country, have selected a low consumption engine by General Electric for the plane. The aircraft coded CN-235 will be produced by a joint venture company called Air Tech Industries from 1983.

LONDON, (AFP) — Japanese firms Sony and K. Hattori have received formal authorization from a London court to take legal action against suppliers of counterfeit cassettes purporting to be of their makes. The two companies had earlier been allowed to carry out investigations and to seize low quality offending cassettes.

TOKYO, (AP) — Australia will resume uranium exports to Japan as early as next year, but only on condition Japan signs a nuclear safeguards agreement, Australian Foreign Minister Tony Street has said.

KATHMANDU, (AFP) — Nepal will receive a loan of \$38.5 million and a grant of \$3 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for various agricultural development projects, it was announced here.

Foreign Exchange Rates

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahrain Dinar	8.65	8.86	
Belgian Franc (1,000)	102.00	—	—
Canadian Dollar	2.79	—	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	164.00	167.50	165.10
Dutch Guilder (100)	151.00	—	151.55
Egyptian Pound	—	4.40	4.45
Emirati Dirham (100)	—	90.90	90.85
French Franc (100)	71.00	72.50	71.45
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	72.25	73.90
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	41.90
Iranian Rial (100)	—	8.25	
Italian Lira (10,000)	34.00	35.50	35.10
Japanese Yen (1,000)	16.50	—	16.70
Jordanian Dinar	—	10.74	
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.27	
Lebanese Lira (100)	89.50	88.15	
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	78.00	
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	33.70	
Philippines Peso (100)	—	44.50	
Pound Sterling	8.02	8.08	8.06
Omani Rial (100)	—	91.80	91.75
Singapore Dollar	—	1.61	
Spanish Peso (1,000)	42.20	42.20	
Swiss Franc (100)	181.00	185.50	182.50
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	77.00	85.50
U.S. Dollar	3.33	3.33	3.34
Yemeni Rial (100)	—	73.50	73.05
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The project was acclaimed as the largest single project in the History of telephony. The contract required that - in only 3 years - the Kingdom's telephone network be extended to cover more than 80 communities and be increased more than three times by installing a switching capacity and cable network for 476,000 new local lines. The contractors would supply and install all local, trunk and international exchanges, build all necessary buildings and sites, construct the new underground network with all cable, cabinets, distribution points and provide all new telephone sets. It goes without saying that the new telephone system would be of the most modern design.

For the senior officials of the Ministry of PTT, it was a dream to achieve the above objectives for the benefit of all citizens in the Kingdom. For us, the project's magnitude combined with the brief time for its completion made it a formidable challenge; a very difficult undertaking indeed! However, we accepted the challenge and the implementation work began.

Now, the three years have passed. What Happened, how did we fare?

We not only fulfilled our contractual obligations in accordance with the tough time schedule, we actually surpassed them! At the end of the three year period, we had installed capacity for 30,000 more lines than contracted, and the Kingdom's switching capacity had increased from 200,000 to 700,000 lines. We had also built 50 per cent more underground network than originally required. Moreover, the Kingdom is today the first country in the world with a nation-wide computer-controlled telephone system.

During the past three years, the Government has also assigned the implementation of two major expansions of the project to us, the first expansion mainly providing a further increase of the cable network and exchange buildings, the second adding yet another 280,000 local lines to the project. Because of these expansions, our project work will continue another two years, to the end of 1982G. At that time, the Kingdom will have increased its telephone network five times in five years, from 200,000 to one million lines - a magnificent achievement in the history of telephony, by any standards.

On this occasion, it is an honour for us to forward to His Majesty King Khaled bin Abdul Aziz, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, First Deputy Premier, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, Second Deputy Premier and Head of the National Guard, and to His Excellency Dr. Alawi Darweesh Kayyal, Minister of Post, Telephone and Telegraph, our profound gratitude and congratulations for the achievement of the new telephone system. We would not have been able to reach this goal if we had not enjoyed continual support and aid from His Majesty's Government with all its various departments and its staff, and benefited from the whole-hearted cooperation of the staff of the Ministry of PTT, of Norconsult and Arthur D. Little Inc., and of the experts of the ITU. Furthermore, we must not forget to express our gratitude to the citizens of Saudi Arabia for their forbearance during the very necessary initial period of street excavations and installation work which caused a multitude of disturbances. Thereby, they made it possible for us to complete our tasks in time and in a satisfactory way.

We are extremely proud and thankful for these outstanding achievements. May the remaining two years of the project - God willing - be signified and blessed by the same success.



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Phoenix registers 23rd victory

Mitchell shines for Cavaliers

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP) — "We're going to continue to get better because these guys are willing to play unselfish basketball." It was Cleveland's Bill Musselman speaking after the Cavaliers whipped the slumping Hawks 106-98 Friday night in Atlanta and climbed past them into fourth place in the National Basketball Association's Central Division.

Mike Mitchell pumped in 31 points, including 18 in a row for Cleveland in the first period, to lead the Cavaliers to their fourth consecutive victory. It was Atlanta's 10th loss

in 11 games.

In other matches, the Phoenix suns defeated the Milwaukee Bucks 131-122, the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Denver Nuggets 110-105, the Boston Celtics nipped the Indiana Pacers 104-103, the Washington Bullets trimmed the Seattle Supersonics 103-91, the Portland Trail Blazers crushed the New York Knicks 117-90, the Kansas City Kings downed the Houston Rockets 113-107, the Golden State shaded the Utah Jazz 103-101 and the Chicago Bulls turned back the Dallas Mavericks 106-98.

India 79 for 1

Hughes hits mighty 213

ADELAIDE, Jan. 24 (AFP) — Australian vice-captain Kim Hughes hit the highest score of his career when he made 213 against India in the second Test at the Adelaide Oval, Saturday. Hughes' chanceless six and a half hour performance was the backbone of Australia's first innings score of 528. But India rallied splendidly to be one for 79 by stumps on the second day of the match.

There was considerable disappointment in

Cruyff to play for Levante

VALENCIA, Spain Jan. 24 (AFP) — Dutch football star Johann Cruyff has agreed to sign a contract next Monday with Second Division side Levante of Valencia, the club management said Friday. Levante President Francisco Aznar said that 33-year-old Cruyff would make his first appearance with the club on Feb. 1 in a Spanish Championship match against Sabadell.

West German First Division club Cologne, now managed by Cruyff's old boss Rinus Michels, Arsenal of London and San Diego in the north American Soccer League were also reported to be interested in signing the Dutchman, who led Aax Amsterdam to three European Club Championships in the 1970s and captained the Netherlands in the final of the 1974 World Cup in West Germany.

Score-board

AUSTRALIA (1ST INNINGS)

J. Dyson c Chauhan b Kapil Dev	30
G. Wood c Doshi b Yadav	125
G. Chapman c Chauhan b Doshi	36
K. Hughes c Yadav b Doshi	213
A. Jones c Gavaskar b Kapil Dev	2
D. Valentine c Viswanath b Yadav	20
R. Marsh run out	0
B. Yardley c Viswanath b Doshi	12
D. Miller c Kapoor b Doshi	2
R. Mehta c Patel b Yadav	11
L. Paseur not out	21
Extras	21
Total	328

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-84, 2-152, 3-234, 5-393, 6-399, 7-435, 8-461, 9-505.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 32-5-112-2; K. Ghavri 27-3-106-0; D. Duttal 48-6-146-3; S. Yadav 42-4-143-4.

INDIA (1ST INNINGS)

C. Chauhan bowling	49
S. Gavaskar bowling	23
S. Yadav bowling	9
Extras	7
Total (for one wicket)	79

FALL OF WICKET: 1-77

BOWLING: D. Lillee 12-1-15-0; R. Hogg 8-2-31-0; L. Paseur 4-0-10-1; Yardley 11-6-16-0.

Christian and Pongoh claim doubles title

TOKYO, Jan 24 (AP) — Hwan Sun-Nai of South Korea beat Japan's Atsuko Tokuda 12-10, 10-12, 11-7 to win the women's singles title in the Japan Open Badminton Championship.

Indonesia's Hadinata Christian and Luis Pongoh captured the men's doubles title beating Flemming Delfs of Denmark and Prakash Padukone (India) 15-4, 15-3.

Dallah Avco have it easy

By Laurie Thomas

JEDDAH, Jan. 24 — In a week marked by controversy and dispute, Dallah Avco gave a clear message when they crushed Whittaker 3-0 with an entertaining display of skilled football, and moved above Whittaker to take over the First Division top spot in the Saudi Football League.

In marked contrast to several last weeks matches, the two teams relied on skill rather than physical prowess to produce flowing end to end football. Whittaker in fact had the

Rally begins in sunshine

MONTE CARLO, Jan. 24 (AFP) — Hundreds of shirt-sleeved spectators lined the sun-drenched Casino Square here Saturday to cheer off the Monaco starters on the concentration run of the 49th Monte Carlo Rally.

In all, 68 of the scheduled 73 starters set out on the 24-hours, 1,200-kms first phase of the rally, which will take crews to the tiny Mediterranean principality to Aix-Les-Bains in the Savoy Alpine region. There they will join competitors from the seven other European starting points and converge on Monaco on the 700 kms classification run in the early hours of Monday morning.

This run will include the first six of 32 special time stages in the 4,300 kms event. Among non-starters from Monaco were Frenchmen Jacques Dagat and Bernard Meyniel from Dijon who turned up at rally headquarters without their car — a Volkswagen Golf GTI. It was stole in the early hours of the morning from outside their hotel at nearby Cap D'Ail.

Only four of the five cars which took off from the Carlton Tower Hotel in London reached their first rendez-vous on time.

The first to reach Douvres was John Newby, No. 258, in a tiny Reliant Kitten, one of the rally's smallest entrants. The seventy-seven starters, who were flagged off from the Place de la Concorde will first head for Nanterre, west of Paris and then south towards Aix-Les-Bains.

The German contingent of thirty were greeted with clear, sunny skies as they took off from the casino of Bad Homburg.

After competitors complete the classification run, the top 200-placed crews set out on the grueling 1,800 kms common run — a 38-hour marathon which starts Monday night.

POINT-A-PITRE, Trinidad, Jan. 24 (AP) — Left-hander David Gower, making full use of four dropped catches, stroked his way to a commanding 154 as England reached a massive 330 for two wickets on the first day of the opening match of their West Indian tour here Friday against the West Indies Cricket Board's President's Eleven.

Gower came to the wicket in the day's first over after left-handed opener Brian Rose had been caught at short-leg off the third ball he faced from Test fast bowler Malcolm Marshall. He was still there when stumps were drawn for the day, having hit two sixes and 16 fours — and enjoyed more than his share of Monday morning.

Gower shared two big partnerships,

luck. He was dropped when 16, 39, 53 and 7 chances which the young West Indians could afford to miss on an easy paced pitch with an inexperienced attack which suffered when fast bowler Marshall retired with an injured arm in the final session.

Gower shared two big partnerships, added 198 for the second wicket with vice-opener Geoff Boycott, and made 87, and unbroken for the third wicket with Mike Goss, who was 62 not out at the end.

The West Indians fielded shabbily all afternoon, but now aged 40 and on his third tour to the Caribbean and seeking a hat-trick of match centuries here, batted soundly in a really solid performance. But he was made when 36 and 66.

Score-board

Regional (not included)	0
B.C. Rose & Payne v Marshall	0
G. Boycott & Harper	154
D.J. Gower batting	62
M.W. Gossin batting	22
Extras	22
Total (for two wickets)	330

BOWLING: Marshall 14-7-21-1; Alleyne 19-4; Harper 26-2-91-1; Austin 26-5-50-0; Daniel 21-6.

Egypt prevails

CAIRO, Jan. 24 (R) — Egypt beat babwe 2-0 in the World Youth Soccer Championship qualifying match Friday, winners who were held goalless at the international stage through Taher Abou Zeid (penalty).

Meanwhile in London, in the only English League match, Southend and Northam drew goalless in the Fourth Division.

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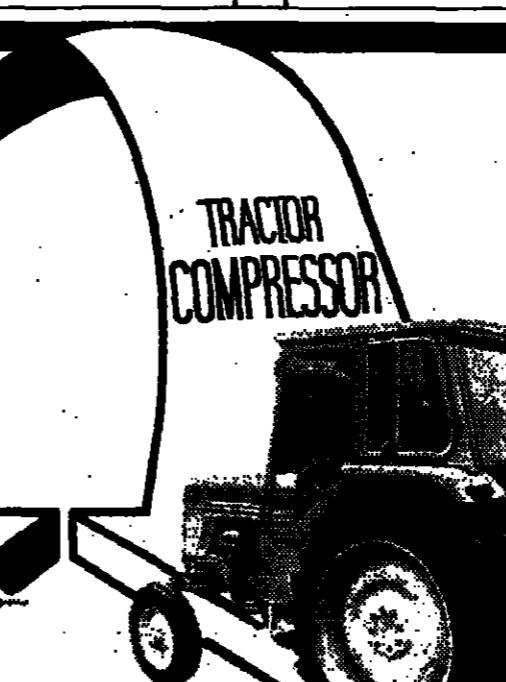
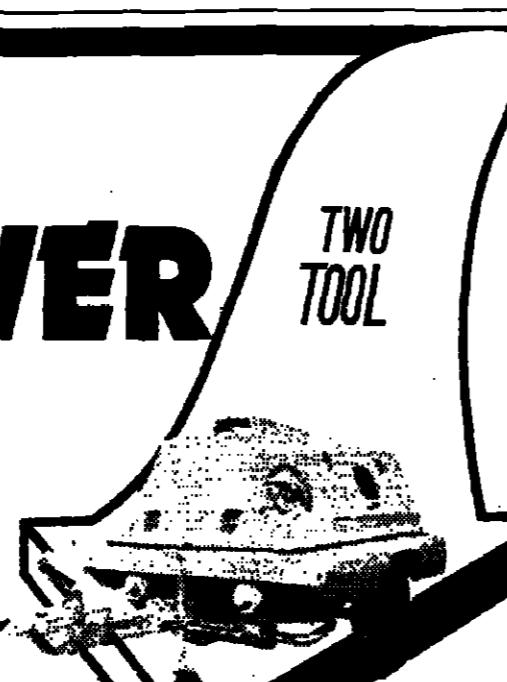
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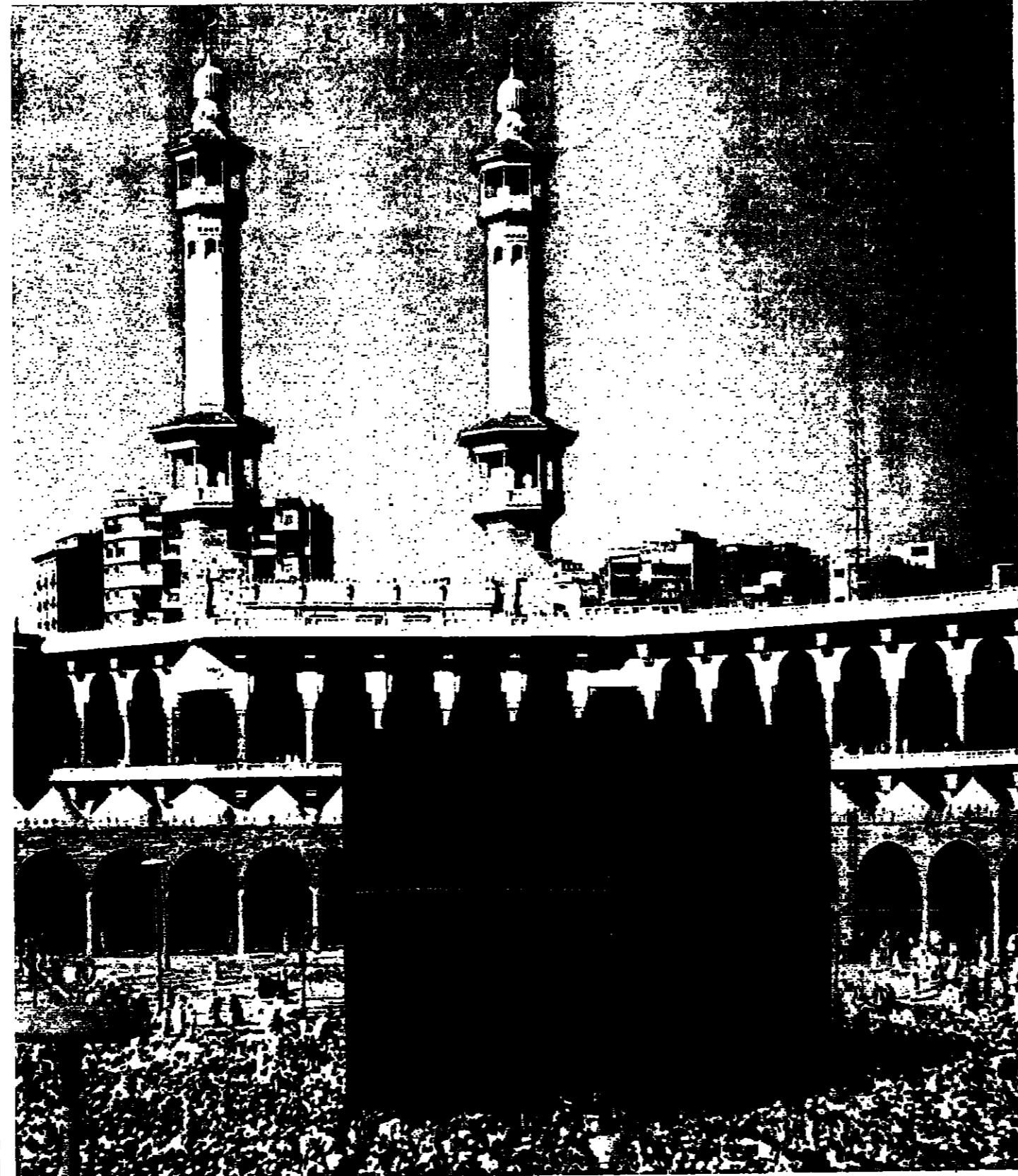


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PAGE 16

Free Saturday issue

Millions stay away from work in Poland

WARSAW, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — Millions of Polish workers Saturday defied the government and boycotted their jobs for the second time this month in support of a union campaign for a five-day week. Offices of the Solidarnosc free trade union, called for the mass boycott, reported idle factories, shipyards and offices and said public transport services were running at the normal level for free Saturdays.

The union is protesting against a government decision to designate two Saturdays a month for work. Solidarnosc has offered a compromise of three free Saturdays a month, in place of its original demand for an immediate 40-hour, five-day work week, but the issue remained deadlocked despite four rounds of government-union talks.

Union leader Lech Walesa Friday night called on its 10 million members to stay home Saturday. Essential services will still operate and factories which work round the clock and would not therefore normally close on a free Saturday will continue production.

Walesa accused the authorities of using the media to convince people that Solidarnosc was irresponsibly pressing for a 40-hour working week to the detriment of the economy. He also demanded a public television debate on the issue of work-free Saturdays. A government spokesman hinted that such a confrontation of views might be possible. Walesa said the dispute went beyond the hours issue and hinged on the government's negative attitude towards Solidarnosc and its failure to adhere to last summer's agreements with strikers.

"The government does not want to accept us nor talk with us," the union leader charged. "Instead it prefers to choose conve-

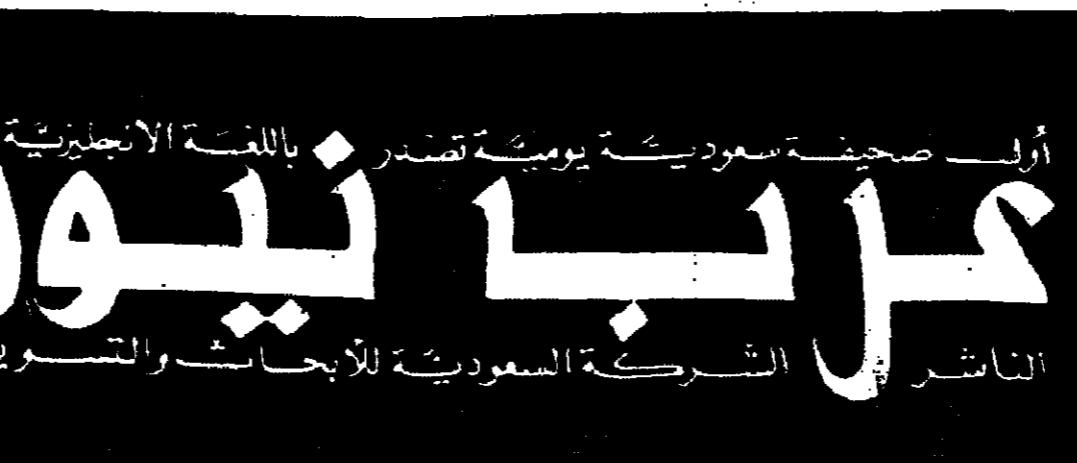
nient maneuvers," he said, adding: "the free Saturday issue is intended to divide us."

The appeal came after a two-day wave of strikes which affected many Polish cities, the most extensive action since Solidarnosc received legal recognition last November. The Friday stoppages grounded domestic flights of the Polish airlines Lot and at least three daily newspapers did not appear.

More stoppages appeared likely next Wednesday following a Solidarnosc resolution proclaiming Jan. 28 a day of struggle in support of private farmers who want to set up their own rural Solidarnosc union. The union's regional branch in the western port of Szczecin said it planned a general strike in the region on that day and miners at the Jastrzebie colliery in Silesia also said they intended a sympathy stoppage.

Walesa, a moderating force in the Solidarnosc movement, issued his appeal for Saturday's work boycott after union militants overruled his call to desist from strikes over a 40-hour week last Tuesday. The stay-at-home order was seen as a test of the union's strength following a similar act of defiance Jan. 10 when most but not all members heeded Solidarnosc's call to boycott their jobs.

The national press carried editorials on the free Saturday issue, and the party daily *Trybuna Ludu* accused some people of using the word "Solidarnosc" as a tool of moral terror and political skulduggery. Warsaw's largest circulated daily, *Wieczorek Warszawski*, said it was essential to negotiate a settlement on the question as soon as possible. The paper, echoing claims by Solidarnosc that it was not being treated fairly as a partner, said it was time to devise a new system of negotiation.

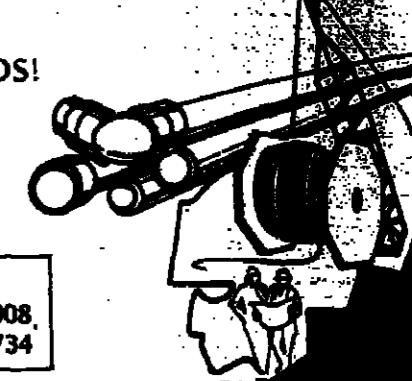


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Only 51 returning

America plans dignified welcome

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — The United States plans a private and dignified welcome for the freed Americans hostages when they return home Sunday.

Fifty-one of the "returnees", as they are now known, are scheduled to fly Sunday, from West Germany to Poughkeepsie, New York, for a two-day reunion with their families at the nearby U.S. military academy at West Point. The 52nd hostage, Donald Hohnan, will remain in West Germany with his German wife.

They will fly to Washington Tuesday for an official welcome, including a White House visit with President Reagan. White House Chief of Staff James Baker said the returnees will be sheltered from the press when their aircraft arrives. Details of the official welcome including a possible parade through the city, were yet to be worked out.

The hostages will meet their families for the first time in more than 14 months inside a big airplane hanger at Stewart field a former military airbase.

In Enid, Oklahoma, former U.S. President Richard Nixon said Friday night the U.S. has no obligation to honor an agreement "with international outlaws" and should feel free to break its commitments to Iran.

"The Reagan administration is correct in taking time to study the complex terms of the agreement under which they were released," he said, and is correct "in withholding final judgment on the extent to which those terms will be carried out."

He warned, however, that Reagan should seek to "avoid action which might lead to an ever more radical movement coming to power in Iran and to avoid breaking any commitments made to Algeria, "which

appears to have acted honorably as an intermediary."

A West German newspaper revealed Saturday that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt met secretly with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid at the funeral of Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito last year to urge Algeria's mediating role in the hostage affair.

The newspaper report, quoting official sources, said that Schmidt told the Algerian president that Algeria's membership in the non-aligned movement made it a suitable mediator. Algeria's eventual role was widely seen as crucial for the reaching of an accord.

In Washington, the U.S. House of Representatives Friday passed a resolution declaring Thursday, Jan. 29, a day of thanksgiving to honor the freed hostages. The Senate had passed the resolution earlier this week. The resolution calls Americans to celebrate the day by attending services in churches or synagogues or in other places of their choice.

Jiang verdict scheduled today

PEKING, Jan. 24 (R) — The court trying Mao Tse-tung's widow Jiang Qing and nine other defendants accused of counter-revolutionary crimes will announce its verdict Sunday, according to the New China News agency. The court ended its proceedings against the purged radicals Dec. 29.

Chinese sources said the verdict had been delayed while the country's leaders debated the sentences and the political implications. Diplomatic sources said it appeared likely Jiang Qing would receive a suspended death sentence. The other defendants, who include five senior military officers, could receive sentences ranging up to life imprisonment for crimes which they are accused of committing during the Maoist cultural revolution of 1966-76.

Iraq ready for truce, minister says

TOKYO, Jan. 24 (Agencies) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan has reiterated his country's readiness to agree to a ceasefire and meet at a peace conference with Iran.

Ramadan made the remark when he met with Japanese Foreign Minister Masayuki Ito. He added that Iraq is prepared to agree mediation by an international organization and asked for Japanese cooperation in making such a move, officials of the Foreign Ministry said.

The Iraqi minister arrived here Tuesday for a three-day visit to Japan as a guest of the Foreign Ministry. Meanwhile, Japanese and Iraqi ministers met in a one-hour session of the Japan-Iraq Joint Committee to discuss bilateral economic problems.

The major subject in the meeting was the consequences of the repatriation of Japanese workers engaged in various construction projects in Iraq after the outbreak of Iraq-Iran war, the officials said.

Iraq reiterated its earlier request that Japanese government agencies and enterprises concerned to resume activities in Iraq as early as possible, they said. Ramadan told reporters that Japanese firms that have continued business activities in Iraq will receive preferential treatment in future dealings but that those companies which had pending activities in his country would be treated in a very different manner.

Ramadan extended an invitation to Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki to visit and Suzuki accepted it. The exact date of Suzuki's visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels. Suzuki and Ramadan agreed to strengthen the friendly relations of the two countries based on the principles of respect for sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual benefits, a joint committee said after the talks.

Suzuki expressed Japan's hope to see early cessation of hostilities between Iraq and Iran and expressed Japan's support for international efforts to achieve a cease and a just solution of the conflict, it said.

Meanwhile, most of the 700 Malaysians who had returned from Baghdad after the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war last September have gone back to resume their work as Iraqi Ambassador in Kuala Lumpur, said Fattah, said.

He said the Malaysians and workers in the Philippines and Thailand who are not engaged in construction work have returned to Iraq as the government had resumed development projects. The ambassador said the situation in Baghdad had returned to normal and that fighting was only going inside Iraq and not along the border.

He said that the war had not hindered country's international trade and added a trade delegation from Iraq would be visiting Malaysia soon to explore the possibility of trade expansion between the two countries.

Samuel Barber dead

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (R) — Samuel Barber, the American composer who died New York home Friday, aged 70. His known and most popular work "Adagio for Strings" was given its world premiere in 1936 by Arturo Toscanini and became one of standard works in the orchestral repertoire.



SECRET TALKS: A report by ABC-TV on the vital work of two Carter go-betweens, Paris lawyer Christian Bourguet (right) and Argentinian businessman Hector Villalobos, revealed many secret hostage talks hitherto unpublished. The negotiators were recruited, according to the report entitled "America held hostage: the secret negotiations", by ABC-TV bureau chief Pierre Salinger at the U.S. administration's request. This artist conception is by Fred Reiter.

From page one

Conference sources, however, are deeply pessimistic about the prospects of an Iran-Iraq rapprochement through Islamic efforts. Well informed sources said the delegation had been given nothing to offer the Iranians, in particular the prospect of a limited Iraqi withdrawal.

In Tehran, the Pars News Agency, however, quoted Rajai as saying Iran will attend the summit in only if President Saddam Hussein of Iraq is barred from participating.

But he also hinted that Iran could bend to our pressure and change its stand. "If we decide to participate in the summit, it will not be in order to find a solution to the Iraq-Iran war, which will be resolved on the battlefield, but for other reasons relating to the Muslim countries," he said.

In a reference to relations with Israel, Turkman also indicated that his country would be hesitant to apply the complete political boycott of Israel that Moroccan King Hussein's 12-man Jerusalem committee proposes.

"We have said we have reduced our relations to a minimum, that is all I can say at this stage," Turkman said. He explained that the Turkish move last week involved lowering diplomatic representation to the level of second secretary. In deference to the expected call for an Islamic economic boycott, Turkman said the Tel Aviv embassy's commercial office had also been closed, but he added that Turkish-Israel trade was negligible. Islamic calls to sever relations with Israel had been asked before, he said. Turkman said the Jerusalem committee's economic proposals were directed more at the West than the Islamic countries, and would involve a request for the United Nations to apply sanctions against Israel.

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